

# Superstitious French Actresses Ascribe Their Success on the Stage to Mascots

## Their Fetiches and Charms Are Held to Assure Good Fortune.

Special Correspondence to The New York Herald.

LIFE may be only a play, more or less vaudiville or tragic according to the scenes written around the life of the individual players; but this does not prevent professional stage folk from being more superstitious than their fellows. Strange as it may be, in a profession where the tricks of fate are alternately laughed at or cried with, there is hardly an actress before the Parisian public to-day who will not confess openly that her success has been due to some special sort of "mascot" or "fetich," frequently of the most insignificant character, but before whose mystic power all the ills or joys of the drama of life must yield.

Even Sarah Bernhardt is not immune to the charm of mascots, but unlike most of her stage sisters she is constantly changing her fetich, alternating from circles of elephant hair to bead studded wooden rings worn on her left thumb for a few minutes daily, but at least once a year finds her happiness in wearing some towed dressed cloth doll with typical Parisian dresses in the smoothest silk. The Divine Sarah says that the touch of silk is conducive to mental comfort.

Although Bernhardt, as the spiritual mother of the modern French stage, is entitled to change her mind just as frequently as she changes her plays, this is not true of the lesser magnitudes of Paris stardom. Once chosen as their harbingers of success their mascots are seldom changed, and as a rule the greatest care is taken to see that no competitor has ever selected the same "mascot." According to one actress seen this week such a thing would certainly produce a theatrical catastrophe, for there would be a collision between two fates—"and, mon Dieu, that would be terrible."

As a result the Parisian theatrical stars have discovered that their luck is under the control of some very strange medium. For instance, Mlle. Regina Badet, who in appearance would bring back memories of Anna Held, has placed all her trust and confidence in a miniature ivory bound copy of the Koran, with a tiny golden clasp. It is less than two inches high and printed on the finest of India paper with the most important verses printed in golden letters. Costly, undoubtedly—but what means expense when the success of Badet is at stake, and besides it is said that the Koran was the gift of an Indian admirer. According to experts who have been privileged to hear Badet read a few favorites from the tiny volume, it is probably the only one of its kind in the world.

and to purchase one like it would require many months of composition and certainly at least \$10,000, which after all is a fairly good price for a Koran in these days when nearly all one cares to read about the East or Near East is whether or not peace has finally been obtained. But Badet finds her peace in her Koran, and as it brings plenty of contracts, though not international, she is contented and fetichism naturally has no more sincere adept than she.

Mlle. Damia divides her confidence between a handsome white dog and a small monkey. She would not think of leaving her apartment for the theater without a few minutes' romp with the dog and a serious chatter with the tiny immigrant from the African forests. Believe it or not, only last year, Damia will tell you, the monkey caught cold—and for more than a week its mistress's voice was so hoarse the public scarcely recognized their favorite. It is entirely beside the matter that nearly everybody in Paris had a touch of "flu" about the same time.

One of the most gruesome fetiches in that which Regina Flory has put all her trust. It is a convict's chain, forty links of solid steel, said to have been worn by one of the victims of the French revolution and fled from the body by relatives when transfer to private cemeteries was permitted. Its peculiar power is supposed to lie in the analogy between a chain of steel rings and the chain of events which go to make up life. Flory, however, has been known to drop her fetich frequently—explained by her friends as due to arriving at the chain link which still bears the marks of the Revolution. Then she emulates the Divine Sarah, and gets out her doll—a score of them, an event which was followed by a most successful evening at the Parisian stage world to-day.

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Urges Taking Amateur Actors More Seriously

"The amateur player should be taken more seriously. And so should amateur theatricals, for scores of professional players have gained their first liking

AMUSEMENTS.

**MARK STRAND**  
A NATIONAL INSTITUTION  
BROADWAY AT 47th STREET  
JOSEPH PLUNKETT  
DIRECTOR

**WESLEY BARRY**  
IN  
"HEROES OF THE STREET"  
FROM THE PLAY BY  
W. L. BARRY  
DIRECTED BY  
W. L. BARRY  
A HARRY BARRER PRODUCTION

**STRAND SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA**  
JIMMIE ADAMS  
In his latest comedy  
"CRASH"  
Prologue  
FREDERICK WHEELER, Baritone  
TYPICAL REVIEW  
"FOLKIE BALLET"  
Presented by  
MICHEL FOLKIE  
Created and produced under  
the personal direction of  
MICHEL FOLKIE  
Interpreted by Mlle. Chaboulet, Bauer, Viole, Childs & M. Antanoff.

**MARK STRAND-NEXT SUNDAY**  
HAROLD LLOYD  
IN 5 REELS  
"DR. JACK"

**AMUSEMENTS.**

**B. F. KEITH'S** BROADWAY THEATRE  
WORLD'S BEST VAUDEVILLE  
Concerts Sun 2:15 & 8:15, WK of Dec. 18

**COLONIAL**  
BROADWAY AT 47th ST.  
BIG PRE-HOLIDAY BILL  
10-ALL-STAR ACTS—  
"A NIGHT IN SPAIN"  
"THE FUTURE"  
MOORE & FREED, KELLAM & O'BRIEN  
AL HERMAN, WILLIE SCHENK

**81ST STREET**  
ERNEST R. BALL  
Harry J. Conley & Co., Frank  
Farrington & Co., Smythe & James,  
Bender & Armstrong, the Castilians  
and Photoplays  
"THE PRIDE OF PALOMAR"

**RIVERSIDE**  
ANNIVERSARY WEEK  
ALL STAR BILL  
CHIC SALE! THE CANNONS  
WELLINGTON CROSS & CO.  
MADDALENE COLLINS, RITA GOULD  
AND OTHERS

**NEW AMSTERDAM**  
TO-DAY—MATINEE & NIGHT.  
B. F. KEITH'S  
Celebrated SUNDAY Concerts  
Sun 2:15 & 8:15, EVES, 8:15 & 10:15

Paul Hartman & Co., Beaumont Sisters,  
THE ROYAL BATHING ESTABLISHMENT,  
WINGSTON LOPEZ, PENNSYLVANIA  
"RICHIE," Julia Long's Harmonica  
Lovers, GEORGE THE FRENCHMAN (American  
dub, greatest tenor of France), GIBSON  
A. CONNELL, AL & PANNY STEPHAN,  
MILK, MUR & HART.

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**LIBERTY THEATRE** 4th & Broadway  
POP. PRICE MATS. WED. & SAT.  
BEST AMERICAN MUSICAL PLAY IN  
THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD  
GEORGE M. COHAN'S COMEDIANS  
"THE NEW SONG"  
AND DANCE SHOW  
LITTLE NELLIE KELLY  
with ELIZABETH HINES  
OUR OWN LITTLE AMERICAN GIRL  
3 POP. MATS. XMAS WEEK  
WED. FRIDAY & SAT.

**KNICKERBOCKER** COMMENCING XMAS NIGHT  
THEATRE, 26th St.  
SEAT SALE THURSDAY, DEC. 21.  
HENRY W. SAVAGE will offer  
THE COMEDY WITH MUSIC  
CLINGING VINE  
with PEGGY WOOD  
Book and Lyrics by ZELDA SEARS.  
Music by HAROLD LEVY.  
Costumes by FRANK ROYCE.  
WITH A FLAWLESS CAST  
OF BROADWAY FAVORITES.

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WITH A DISTINGUISHED CAST INCLUDING  
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**'HOSPITALITY'**  
A gripping drama, magnificently staged.  
By Jesse L. Lasky  
OPENING Xmas Night Why Not? of "Why Marry?"

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**NEW AMSTERDAM** 47th St.  
POP. PRICE MATS. WED. & SAT.  
THE ONLY SHOW BEYOND  
IMITATION! AND THE  
GREATEST IN THE WORLD!  
**ZIEGFELD FOLLIES**  
Staged by Ned Wayburn  
PRICES WITHIN REACH OF ALL  
SEATS NOW FOR XMAS  
AND NEW YEAR'S WEEKS

**HENRY MILLER'S** THEATRE  
47th St. & Broadway  
CHARLES FROHMAN PRESENTS  
**INA CLAIRE**  
AND COMPANY INCLUDING  
**BRUCE MERRA**  
IN THE "PREPOSTEROUSLY"  
CLEVER COMEDY  
**The Awful Truth**  
BY ARTHUR RICHMAN  
EXTRA HOLIDAY MATINEE  
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 26.

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actor in 'The Red Geranium.' My opportunity came with 'Twin Beds' at the Fulton. I had the role of Signora Monti. Then came my part of 'Requiem' in 'The Last Warning,' which makes me merry when I think of it, because it is in the mood I love the best of all."

TONY SARG'S PUPPET-CRAFT.

Tony Sarg began his Marionette work as an outgrowth of his interest in toys. Some friend sent him some Marionettes just merely to add to his collection, and Tony began experimenting. The antics through which it was possible to put the toys so amused the artist that he continued playing with them, and finally, enlarged his collection until he was able to present a little play for some personal friends.

The first entertainment in his quarters in London was so popular with those who saw it that they demanded another, when still other friends might see it. Soon the poor artist had no time left to earn a living but had to amuse his friends all the days of the week when he could be imported into putting on his puppet show.

Since then Mr. Sarg has taken up the Marionettes in a serious way, so to speak, and his company is making his fourth consecutive transatlantic tour this season. After the end of its December run at the Fulton and Judy Theatres, the company starts Westward toward Los Angeles and will return to New York late in the spring.

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WORLD'S LARGEST AND FOREMOST MOTION PICTURE PALACE  
EDWARD BOWES  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

**A \$1,000,000 WORTH OF STARS**

**ASSOCIATED PICTURES CORPORATION presents**

**"QUINCY ADAMS SAWYER"**

with  
BLANCHE SWEET LON CHANEY  
HANK MANN JUNE ELVIDGE  
BARBARA LA MARR ELMO LINCOLN  
JOSEPH DOWLING JOHN BOWERS  
LOUISE FAZENDA GALE HENRY  
VICTOR POTELE BILLY FRANEY

**The Picture of the Year**

You will love Blanche Sweet as the blind girl, hate Lon Chaney as the villain, enjoy Barbara La Marr as the village vamp, cheer John Bowers as Quincy, pity Elmo Lincoln as Abner Stiles and laugh with the greatest collection of screen fun-makers ever assembled for one picture.

**A METRO-S.L. PICTURE**

Produced by Arthur H. Sawyer and Herbert Lubin  
Supplemented by a Typical Capitol Program  
**"HERBERTIANA"**

Favorites Victor Herbert, Alvin Karpis and the Capitol Solists and Capitol Ballet Corps  
Mlle. Gambarelli, Alexander Dumas, Thalia Zanon, Doris Miles  
**CAPITOL GRAND ORCHESTRA**  
ERNO RAPEE, conductor  
SOLOISTS: Evelyn Herbert, Erik Bye, William Robyn, Ray Ayres

**Presentations by ROTHAFEL**

**COMING TO THE CAPITOL THEATRE**

**SUNDAY DEC. 31st**

**MARSHALL NEILANS**  
"Supreme Motion Picture Achievement"  
**"THE STRANGERS BANQUET"**  
WITH A CAST OF 23 STARS  
Story by DONN BYRNE

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WORLD'S BEST VAUDEVILLE  
Concerts Sun 2:15 & 8:15, WK of Dec. 18

**COLONIAL**  
BROADWAY AT 47th ST.  
BIG PRE-HOLIDAY BILL  
10-ALL-STAR ACTS—  
"A NIGHT IN SPAIN"  
"THE FUTURE"  
MOORE & FREED, KELLAM & O'BRIEN  
AL HERMAN, WILLIE SCHENK

**81ST STREET**  
ERNEST R. BALL  
Harry J. Conley & Co., Frank  
Farrington & Co., Smythe & James,  
Bender & Armstrong, the Castilians  
and Photoplays  
"THE PRIDE OF PALOMAR"

**RIVERSIDE**  
ANNIVERSARY WEEK  
ALL STAR BILL  
CHIC SALE! THE CANNONS  
WELLINGTON CROSS & CO.  
MADDALENE COLLINS, RITA GOULD  
AND OTHERS

**NEW AMSTERDAM**  
TO-DAY—MATINEE & NIGHT.  
B. F. KEITH'S  
Celebrated SUNDAY Concerts  
Sun 2:15 & 8:15, EVES, 8:15 & 10:15

Paul Hartman & Co., Beaumont Sisters,  
THE ROYAL BATHING ESTABLISHMENT,  
WINGSTON LOPEZ, PENNSYLVANIA  
"RICHIE," Julia Long's Harmonica  
Lovers, GEORGE THE FRENCHMAN (American  
dub, greatest tenor of France), GIBSON  
A. CONNELL, AL & PANNY STEPHAN,  
MILK, MUR & HART.

**AMUSEMENTS.**

**LIBERTY THEATRE** 4th & Broadway  
POP. PRICE MATS. WED. & SAT.  
BEST AMERICAN MUSICAL PLAY IN  
THE WHOLE WIDE WORLD  
GEORGE M. COHAN'S COMEDIANS  
"THE NEW SONG"  
AND DANCE SHOW  
LITTLE NELLIE KELLY  
with ELIZABETH HINES  
OUR OWN LITTLE AMERICAN GIRL  
3 POP. MATS. XMAS WEEK  
WED. FRIDAY & SAT.

**KNICKERBOCKER** COMMENCING XMAS NIGHT  
THEATRE, 26th St.  
SEAT SALE THURSDAY, DEC. 21.  
HENRY W. SAVAGE will offer  
THE COMEDY WITH MUSIC  
CLINGING VINE  
with PEGGY WOOD  
Book and Lyrics by ZELDA SEARS.  
Music by HAROLD LEVY.  
Costumes by FRANK ROYCE.  
WITH A FLAWLESS CAST  
OF BROADWAY FAVORITES.

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**AMUSEMENTS.**

**ELTINGER** 4th & Broadway  
MATS. WED. & SAT.  
BEG. NEXT FRIDAY  
DEC. 22nd SEATS NOW

**HELEN MACKELLAR**  
IN  
"THE MASKED WOMAN"  
A DRAMA  
BY GATHELOPPES on the  
FRONT OF CHARLES MERE.  
WITH A DISTINGUISHED CAST INCLUDING  
LOWELL SHERMAN

**EQUITY** 48th STREET  
THEATRE  
LAST WEEK  
EVEN. 8:30  
MAT. TUES.

**'HOSPITALITY'**  
A gripping drama, magnificently staged.  
By Jesse L. Lasky  
OPENING Xmas Night Why Not? of "Why Marry?"

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